

SAYS CAPITAL MAY BE CONVENTION CITY

Many Organizations Would Come Here If Suitable Hall Were Built, Say Hotel Men.

Washington may yet become America's principal convention city, according to the Washington Hotel Men's Association's arguments in urging the erection of an adequate convention hall here.

The association has decided to call upon the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade, Retail Merchants' Association, citizens' associations, and other trade and civic bodies to join with it in a concerted action for the erection of a proper building.

That the movement will receive the endorsement that it merits, and the hotel association the co-operation which it seeks, is assured. Though none of the trade or civic bodies has yet been requested directly to take action, the heads of the organizations have given assurances of their willingness to support the proposition, but to take active steps in securing the financial aid necessary.

The real estate men of Washington would back a convention hall movement from the word go, declared John L. Weaver, president of the Real Estate Brokers' Association. "There is nothing that could be done for Washington that would be more profitable than the city than the establishment of an adequate up-to-date convention hall."

Any other city, I have not a doubt, were the need for a convention hall so great, a portion of the municipal funds would have been devoted to its erection. But if we are to make a campaign for such a hall here, we must give it a business atmosphere.

Whenever this subject has been proposed in the past, popular subscription has been suggested. What is needed is the appointment of an experienced business man as manager of the institution. He would be permitted to make bookings for the hall; not for conventions alone, but for concerts, lectures and other entertainments as well.

Many orchestral entertainments and lectures are now given here in the quarters, but there are no suitable quarters, where many more persons would have opportunity to attend. In this way the convention hall would quickly be put on a paying basis.

Patrick J. Moran, president of the Chamber of Commerce, though declining to make any suggestion as to the most suitable site for the hall, is seeking the hall, remarking that the question of its establishment may come later before the chamber when he said that Washington should be well known as a building.

"The sentiment of the Board of Trade has long been in favor of the erection of a convention hall," said E. C. Brant, acting president of the Board of Trade. "I am sure the board would be glad to see the subject presented the board would pledge its support."

Would Reap Great Advantages. "Washington would reap great advantages from a building such as is contemplated," declared F. Hight, president of the Hotel Men's Association. "I have frequently been told by representatives of many of the larger associations which now meet at Atlantic City that they would prefer Washington to any other city for a convention. The hotel men point not alone to commercial conventions, many of which require large accommodations, but to the fact that the city is a desirable place for a convention. The hotel men point not alone to commercial conventions, many of which require large accommodations, but to the fact that the city is a desirable place for a convention."

The absolute need for such a building, the advocates of the idea say, was demonstrated only a few months ago. Representatives of one of the largest commercial conventions held in this country were debating between Washington and Atlantic City. They preferred to come to Washington, as they had for a number of years met at Atlantic City, and desired a change. It would require 5,000 rooms to accommodate the delegates, thus showing the financial benefit that would have resulted. But when the joint conventions committee of the Board of Trade, Chamber of Commerce, and Retail Merchants' Association looked about for convention quarters they could find but one building of sufficient size. Notwithstanding the fact that the structure was unoccupied at the time, its owner said that he would require \$5,000 for the use of the hall for the brief period that the convention would be in session. Many other meetings, it is said, are lost to Washington for very similar reasons.

Wedderspoon to Preach In Evangelist Series. The Rev. William R. Wedderspoon, pastor of Foundry M. E. Church, will preach this evening at the Lincoln Road M. E. Church. This will be one of a series of evangelistic services held under the auspices of the Rev. L. M. Ferguson, pastor, and the members of the Epworth League of the church.

Gives \$25,000 Bail on Charge of Bribery. CHARLESTON, W. Va., Jan. 15.—A. Leo Weil, attorney for the Manufacturers' Heat and Light Company, of Pittsburgh, was released on \$25,000 bail after a preliminary hearing on a charge of attempting to bribe Commissioner C. H. Bronson and other members of the West Virginia public service commission.

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PHOTOPLAYS AND PHOTOPLAYERS

By GARDNER MACK.

Picture Play House Helps Emancipate The Women of Egypt.

The truth of the statement of a distinguished Englishman that when Mary Pickford pouts or John Bunny laughs or Broncho Billy tells someone to "throw up his hands," the action is reflected around the world, is given substantial proof in a communication which has recently been received from Homer Crox, the expert camera man, who is at present on a world tour in the interest of the Universal Company. Mr. Crox is just now completing the last few laps of his globe-encircling trip, and when last heard from was in Cairo, Egypt. His letters, which have been printed in the Moving Picture World, have contained many instances of finding American pictures in the most out-of-the-way sections of the earth. The American pictures, according to Mr. Crox, is the most popular form of amusement among the natives of the Orient.

"So popular are they," he writes, "that in every city you come to the name 'America' figures in the name of the theater. In Bombay is the America-Indian Cinema Theater; in Cairo is the American Cosmograph; in visiting the American Cosmograph here in Cairo, I was impressed by three things:

"As I was walking up the street to the moving picture theater about a dozen Egyptian boys tackled me holding slips in their hands that looked like cigar coupons. They thrust them into my face and yelled at the top of their opac voices that I buy the slips. If you go to a confectionery shop and buy a dime's worth of chocolate they give you a coupon. If you will take the coupon to the picture theater the box office will give you a reduction of one cent on any seat you buy. The boys who bore down on me were trying to sell these coupons. From a boy's view can you see the value of a nickel. As a result, hardly anyone goes into the theater paying full price.

"The second thing that impressed me was the way they get around using French or English films and the audiences can follow the meaning. The audiences in Cairo are very cosmopolitan. The programs are printed in four languages. If the management wanted to change the subtitles on an American film in Arabic (the native language of Egypt), only a part of the audience would understand. They had just as well leave the titles in English or French. This they do, and on the wall near the screen they throw by means of a magic lantern the Arabic translation. As soon as the running film flashes a subtitle the same words in Arabic appear on the wall, thrown by the magic lantern.

"The third thing that I will always remember about the Cairo theaters is the harem box. Until only recently it was impossible for an Egyptian woman to go to a moving picture theater. An Egyptian woman must never show her face in public. The great joy of seeing on that is reserved for her husband. You can imagine how particular they are of their women's faces. Their women wear alashed skirts that made me gasp, but they have to keep the towel over their physiognomy. So, of course, it was impossible for women to go to a picture theater where they had to sit among the hot polloi and be rudely gazed at by men. The moving picture men gave this custom the half Nelson by building a special box for the women, which they call harem boxes. These have fine blinds drawn over them.

through which the occupants can see, but which shield them from the crude, staring men in the pit below. The husbands cannot sit in the harem box with his wife. Oh, no, that would never do, as some other woman might buy a ticket for that box. When the show is over she goes out a side entrance and steps into a closed carriage without a masculine soul having seen her face during the evening.

"The moving picture theater is just beginning to have a big run with the women of Egypt. All their lives they have been shut up, and for the first time they are having a chance to see what is going on outside the doors of their harem. Egyptian women call the name of the moving picture theater 'bleesd'."

Predicts Postal Airmen "Common as Mail Clerks." NEW YORK, Jan. 15.—Postal aviation carrying first class mail by airplane will be as commonplace as railway mail clerks within two years, according to the prediction of Second Assistant Postmaster General Stewart, in an address at the annual dinner of the Aero Club of America at the Hotel St. Regis last night.

Mr. Stewart declared that it would be the settled policy of the department to "knock and knock again at the door of Congress," until the necessary appropriation was available when aviation, on as many mail routes, would be placed in the service.

Elliott's Special Escapes Wreck by Hair's Breadth. SOUTH NORWALK, Conn., Jan. 15.—It has just been learned that the private train of Edward Elliott, president of the New Haven railroad, with Mr. Elliott and friends on board, narrowly escaped wreck on the Danbury branch Wednesday evening.

A freight train was standing partly on the main track and partly on the siding at Danbury when a railroad hand, using a curve near this point, saw the special coming down grade forty to fifty miles an hour. He flagged the special, which almost stopped, the freight being the reversed engine stopped it.

Quietening Father. Daddy—No, yer mother never deat the was you girls do today to catch a Daughter—Yes, but look at what she got.—Boston Record.

THE ONLY Department Representing THE PUBLIC



RICHARD BÜHLER and DOROTHY DONNELLY. In a scene from "The Thief," at the Apollo today.

TODAY'S BEST FILMS

By GARDNER MACK.

Richard Bühler and Dorothy Donnelly, in "The Thief," from the play by Henri Bernstein, at the Apollo, 624 H street northeast.

Carlisle Blackwell, in "The Man Who Could Not Lose" (Favorite Players), the Savoy, Fourteenth, near Irving street.

Melvin Arbuckle, in "The Country Clubman," from the play by George Ade, the Lyric, Fourteenth, near Irving street.

Elia Hall and Robert Leonard, in "Master Hec," seventh episode (Universal), the Lyric, Eighth and H streets northeast.

Irene Hunt and Spottiswoode Attenborough, in "His Responsibility" (Reliance), the Niagara, 719 Seventh street.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Mackley, in "The Message" (Reliance), the Empire, 215 H street northeast.

June Cowl, in "The Garden of Eden," by Julius Miles Forman, Candell's, Ninth and E streets.

Edward Aheles, in "Hobby Burritt," from the story by George Randolph Chester, the Garden, 423 Ninth street.

Edward Aheles, in "The Million" (Favorite Players), the Strand, Ninth and streets.

Anita Stewart, Julia Suzanne Gordon, and Earle Williams, in "Two Women" (Vitaphone), the Olympic, 1617 I street.

Victoria Ford and Eddie Lyons, in "In Tux 23" (Neator), the Lafayette, E. between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets.

"The Hermit's Secret" (Eclair), the Odéon, Church, near Fourteenth street.

(Note: These selections are based on the personality of the players and the producing company and not necessarily on the quality of the picture cases.—G. M.)

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SAY DACIA PROTEST MAY BE WITHDRAWN

State Department Officials Hopeful That Great Britain Will Accede to Request.

State department officials today were hopeful that the British government would accede to its request regarding the sailing of the steamer Dacia, cotton laden, from Port Arthur, Tex., to Rotterdam. This request covers a single round trip, and leaves the question of transfer of registry to future determination.

Inasmuch as the destination has been shifted from Bremen to Rotterdam to meet the emergency, officials today were more inclined to the insistence on their position than heretofore. They maintained that the British government had little basis for objection to a single trip to a neutral port, particularly with the proviso that her rights to contest the registry problem is reserved.

Moreover, authorities felt that in the end the British suspicion of the bona fide character of the transfer would be satisfied.

Release of more American ships by Great Britain, reported from London, inclined officials today to believe that England will hereafter use greater care toward American shipping, as the result of the American shipping protest note.

Dr. John T. Digges Dead At Home in Maryland.

LA PLATA, Md., Jan. 15.—Dr. John T. Digges, for years one of the best known physicians in southern Maryland, is dead at his home here. He was seventy-three years old, and was born in Charles county where his family first settled in 1664.

He served in the Confederate army, having been a member of Dement's Maryland Battery, which was attached to the Stonewall Jackson corps. After the war he entered Georgetown University and was graduated in medicine.

His wife, who was Miss Katherine Mitchell, daughter of the late Gen. Walter Mitchell of Charles county, died in 1887.

Dr. Digges is survived by two sons, W. Mitchell Digges, naval officer of the port of Baltimore, and Dr. John H. Digges, of Washington, and two daughters, Miss Matilda Digges and Miss Katherine M. Digges.

Charge Embezzlement by Carlisle Officials.

SUNBURY, Pa., Jan. 15.—Moses Freedman, formerly superintendent of the Carlisle Indian School, and C. J. Nori, formerly chief clerk, have been indicted by a Federal grand jury charged of embezzling money belonging to the students and of buying receipts for students' money given by the financial clerk of the institution.

Freedman also is accused of misappropriating money from the sale of tickets of admission to athletic events of the school. The specific amounts alleged to have been embezzled from the students aggregate less than \$200.

Bible Thief Must Read Bible in Jail

Has 30 Days for the Book's Perusal—Prefers That to Several Years in Prison.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 15.—Harold Lane, twenty, is serving thirty days in the county jail, and during that time he must read the Bible from cover to cover.

The sentence was imposed by Judge Wilbur when Lane appeared in court to answer a charge of violating the provisions of a probationary sentence.

Two weeks ago Lane took a number of Bibles from a local church. The judge told Lane he could choose between going to the county jail for thirty days and studying the Bible during that time or going to the penitentiary for several years. Lane preferred the jail.

Governors Are Elected At Episcopal Hospital.

The board of governors of the Episcopal Eye, Ear, and Throat Hospital today began the new year at the head of the institution.

Accomplishments of the past twelve months were shown in the reports given at the annual meeting of the board last night in St. Margaret's Episcopal parish hall, where the following governors were re-elected:

For one year—The Rev. Charles E. Buck of Rock Creek parish; Dr. Henry D. Fry, Henry P. Blair, George R. Stetson, the Rev. James W. Smith, pastor of Christ's Church; Dr. William H. Fox, Melville Church, and C. H. Singleton, deceased.

The following were elected governors to fill existing vacancies: Clarence F. Stortment, Dr. A. King, Dr. A. King, Dr. Sterling Ruffin, vice Richard P. Williams, resigned; William H. Singleton, deceased; Admiral Charles Herbert Stockton, U. S. N., retired, resigned; and William B. Trott, vice William H. Singleton, deceased.

As corporators, the following were selected: D. J. Williams, Mrs. David M. Lea, H. L. Rust, Dr. Arthur Mattheissen, Dr. Sterling Ruffin, Dr. John W. Burke, the Rev. G. W. Van Fossen, and Morris Hacker.

Women to Hear Review Of Capital Charities.

The work of the various charity organizations of Washington will be outlined by their respective heads at a meeting in the Public Library tomorrow at 11 o'clock, under the auspices of the District Federation of Women's Clubs.

The meeting was called by Mrs. Ella Logan, president of the federation, in order that the women of the city become familiar with conditions in the different organizations and render assistance to those in greatest need.

Addresses will be made by Walter S. Ufford, general secretary of the Associated Charities; Walter C. Clephane, secretary of the charities indorsement committee; Mrs. J. I. S. Nelson, of the Neighborhood House; Miss Lydia Burkhardt, of the Friendship House; Mrs. Harriet V. Monroe, of the Gospel Mission, and the heads of other charity organizations of the District.

The first of a series of lectures and entertainments under the auspices of the clubwomen for the benefit of local charities, will be given in the Woodward & Lothrop auditorium January 19, at 8 o'clock, when Miss Janet Richards will lecture on "Peace and War on a European Holiday."

URGES JUVENILE VOCATION BUREAU

Miss Lillian Wald, Settlement Worker, Leads Investigation of Children's Needs.

Miss Lillian Wald, settlement worker and pathfinder for remedial and beneficial legislation, is about to hew the way for a public institution as unprecedented as was the Federal Children's Bureau, which was due to Miss Wald's initiative.

"Children entering the field of industry," says this hovering angel of New York's East Side, "need to be directed by people who have their best interests at heart."

Miss Wald, the founder of Henry Street Settlement, New York, has been discussing with Julius Lathrop, chief of the Children's Bureau, and others interested in child welfare in the District, the practicability of juvenile vocational bureaus in all cities where there is child labor. The mayor of New York is co-operating with the Henry Street Settlement, already is conducting an investigation with a view to the establishment of such a bureau in his own city.

Since the beginning of my work among the little of the East Side," declared Miss Wald, "I have felt the helplessness of the little lives, who, compelled by economic necessity to go to work as soon as they could legally leave school, usually enter some blind alley trade, with no chance to become efficient workers or to work up to higher pay."

As a partial substitute for this state of affairs, the Henry Street Settlement has been giving vocational scholarships for the past five years. This means that instead of going to work as soon as they could legally leave school, usually enter some blind alley trade, with no chance to become efficient workers or to work up to higher pay."

Records have been carefully kept of the fifty-one children who have finished their training on the scholarship fund and gone to work. The comparison of their wages with those of the fifty-one children of the same age, taken from the records of the Alliance Employment Bureau, which places the children more carefully than any other agency in the city, proves conclusively that the children, who have had two years of training are able to earn much higher wages than those who go to work without any previous training. The average wage of the trained children, who have been working six months is \$4.30 per week, and that of the untrained children, who have been working one year, the average wage of those unskilled is \$3.10, that of the trained children, \$10.24.

"Applications for scholarships come from all parts of the city. At the monthly committee meeting the applications are presented by the secretary and the committee awards to those children who seem to be in the greatest need. The children are advised as to trade training and school. The girls are being taught dressmaking, millinery, hand embroidery, sample mounting, box-making, costume designing, and illustrating, and several are taking commercial courses. The boys are preparing to be carpenters, electricians, printers, and mechanics. Some children are kept in the elementary school until they graduate before they enter a trade school."

Leaving Washington 6:15 P. M. daily now, arrives Cincinnati 10:50 A. M.

For Pullman accommodations and railroad tickets apply to Ticket Agent, or T. L. Lipsett, D. P. S., Fifteenth and G streets, Washington.

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Dismantle Wireless Station in Panama

PANAMA, Jan. 15.—The Canal Zone police have dismantled a wireless telegraph plant on the top of a tall building in the heart of Panama. The plant belonged to a Danish West Indian student of wireless telegraphy. Complaint was made recently by the Danish minister, Sir Charles Mallet, of the existence of a wireless station in Panama, and he gave the police its approximate location.

Ohio Miners Stay Out.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Jan. 15.—The United Mine Workers of Ohio have declared for the continuance of a coal strike in eastern Ohio and oppose the signing of a new contract.

Most Headaches Result From Eye Strain

Eye strain may disturb any function of the body, yet the eyes themselves may not pain and the vision may be as strong as ever. If a sufferer of headaches have your eyes examined. You may not need glasses, but it is most likely that you do. If you do not, we tell you so frankly.

Eyes Examined Free.

Roe Fulkerson, Oculist, 1407 F Street N. W. Opposite Willard Hotel.